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Declers in Investment and Other Securities
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FINANCIAL REVIEW

merce Commission is content as made public in a reckless fashion and the early harmful impressions produced by it were not only exaggerated but were mitigated by the commission's efforts to speak approvingly of the actual financial condition of the property and comment favorably on its operations. The violent contrast between the findings on this score and the technical diarribe against the bookkeeping methods of the St. Paul management only increased the astonishment of the banking community over the course adopted by the commission in seeking to enforce its prescribed standards of accounting. The situation is seen to be nothing like as serious as was indicated by the first publications of the contrast point in the situation is seen to be nothing like as serious as was indicated by the first publications of the commission's criticisms, but the long tale of railway scandais with which the country has been afflicted lately lent an unfortunate point to the St. Paul report. The prestige of this particular road has been such as to emphasize the point; and naturally, with market conditions already and the contrast of the pressing of this particular road has been such as to emphasize the point; and naturally, with market conditions already and the contrast of the pressing of this particular road has been such as to emphasize the point; and naturally, with market conditions already and the contrast of the pressing of this particular road has been such as to emphasize the point; and naturally, with market conditions already the course of the commission of the contrast of the contrast of the pressing of this particular road has been such as to emphasize the point; and naturally, with market conditions already the contrast of the contrast

tion and depression are not extreme. In all probability nothing in the way of a renewal of rising security prices and a resumption of buying movements is to be expected unless general business clearly improves in the next few weeks, and if improvement is not noted a display of stock market weakness would not be surprising. Nevertheless the stubborn underlying strength which conted a display to the strength which conted a display in the strength which conted a display to the strength which content is to be expected and the strength which content is to be expected unless general business clearly improve the strength which can be strengthed as the strength of the strength o prising. Nevertheless the stubborn underlying strength which quoted values have
exhibited in recent weeks does not require any particularly recondite interpretation. It is fundamentally owing to the
relief of financial positions from the
credit strain which was so menacing a
factor a year ago. Had it not been for
this relief it is doubtful if the hopes which
are entertained of a gradual betterment
of conditions in the field where values
are created would have been able to prevall against the succession of adverse developments with which finance has been velopments with which finance has been confronted.

Every important financial market has troubles of its own and is subjected to the reflected difficulties of other markets. Furthermore, all of them are in turn affected more or less unfavorably by the worldwide state of social unrest, by the curtailment of world trade and by the necessities which have compelled a con-siderable suspension of normal dealings between financial centres represented by between financial centres represented by transactions in the security and foreign exchange markets. Here, as abroad, new financing has been very largely a process of refinancing and new enterprise con-tinues in abeyance with its implication of a prolonged slackening of general business activities. The conditions of trade have not provided constructive in-fluences to the domestic stock market and the mercantile and manufacturing comthe mercantile and manufacturing com-munities have evidently not yet solved the problems created by the business leg-islation of last year, while further re-straints are imposed by the new legisla-tion which is pending for the extended political regulation of business endeavor. the mercantile and manufacturing compolitical regulation of business endeaver. Domestic politics have not in the main been conductive to the display of stock market firmness, and now at the beginning of the second year of President Wilson's Administration finance encounters a tangle of difficulties in the foreign relations of the United States, such as are plainly denoted by the Mexican imbroglio, by the Panama Canal tolls question and less plainly but just as unministration and less plainly but just as unministration. tion and less plainly but just as unmis-tion and less plainly but just as unmis-takably set forth in the intimations given by President Wilson in his brief impres-sive address to Congress last week. Al-together it is remarkable that so much together it is remarkable that so much resistance should have been offered by the stock market, a resistance which unquestionably testifies to the essential strength of banking positions and the ossential soundness of the money market.

Wall Street is perhaps the most willing that of the country to suspend hydrogen.

wall Street is perhaps the most willing part of the country to suspend Judgment on the embarrassment of foreign relations with which the Administration is dealing. It recognizes that these embarrassments are largely the result of a foreign policy carried out through a State Department which has literally been rendered an absurdity. At the same time the financial centre of the United States has not at any time been disposed to borrow trouble from the obviously accumulating difficulties of our foreign relations. It has believed that ultimately American common sense would intumph. It has believed that as soon as President Wilson realized that our foreign concerns would not be wholly nestected for the sake of prosecuting a programme of domestic policy the Chief Executive would show forth the same able qualities which made for the Administration such an interesting record of achievement on

the domestic side during its first year in office. It has believed this all the more because of the high ground of national honor taken by the President in respect

OF THE PAST WEEK

OF THE PAST WEEK

Charges Against St. Paul's

Charges Against St. Paul's

Bookkeeping Subject Stocks to a Severe Test.

Bookkeeping Subject Stocks

to a Severe Test.

NEW BLOW TO CONFIDENCE

Aspects of the Chesapeake and Ohio Nationation of the commission of the Chesapeake and Ohio Note Issue—Values Supported by Easy Money.

Whether there will be any far reaching effects of the charges of freegularity in the financial statements of the Chesapeake and Ohio Nationation of a rather widespread comporate managements of the charges of freegularity in the financial statements of the Chesapeake and Ohio National Statements of the Chesapeake and Ohio Interpretate of the Statements of the Chesapeake and Ohio Interpretate of the Statements of the Chesapeake and Ohio Interpretate of the Statements of the Chesapeake and Ohio Interpretate of the Statement

characterized by a sentiment none too their bankers of a difficult situation and robust, quoted values were greatly unsettled when the St. Paul management stood forth accused of grave irregularities by the Federal supervisors of the common carriers.

These occurrence all took place so close to the week end as to preclude the sober consideration which they deserved and prevent any satisfactory application of the work and prospect over which they cast a financial prospect over which they cast the mercy of official conceptions of public duty values have been piaced. No more evident cloquence of all this could be needed than that which was furnished by the bad break in the Wall Street share list which followed the intemperate zeal manifested by the interstate Commerce Commission both in respect to the terms in which the St. Faul report was coucled and in the fashion of its public deliverance. On the market offered on Saturpore on the cast of the case in the fashion of its public deliverance, on the market offered on Saturpore should have a tendency to a submitted of the cast of t

ter, security prices have, both at home and abroad, reflected lately the sustaining influence of the recent widespread relaxation in the money market. Selling has been largely professional at all centres, even allowing for the occurrence of special realizing. Markets have tended to hold up, despite the waning of buying movements, because the current cheapness of credits has reenforced extensively liquidated positions and because quoted values for the time being have been justified by the trade and industrial situation, which in the long run governs values.

Commerce and manufacturing have not evinced signs of expansion, but contractions of the cheap and content of the chances of the Eastern railroade in their application for permission to make general freight rate advances. On such opportunity as Wail Street had before the week ended to view the St. Paul report which the Interstate Commerce Commission hurled into the stock market late on Friday afternoon fell on a situation and one situation of the Chesatory what he implications of the Chesatory what he chances of the Eastern railroade in their application for permission to make general freight rate advances. On such opportunity as Wail Street had before the week ended to view the St. Paul affair in all its bearings it appeared that evinced signs of expansion, but contraction of the Chesatory what he chances of the Eastern railroade in their application for permission to make general freight rate advances. On such opportunity as Wail Street had before the week ended to view the St. Paul and the commission had done had been the recent widespread recommended into the stock market late on Friday afternoon for the Commerce Commission hurled into the stock market late on Friday afternoon for the Chesatory what by the implications of the Chesatory (and the peak and Ohio financing. It naturally includes the peak and Ohio financing. It naturally includes the peak and Ohio re not affair in all its bearings it appeared that to ventilate official dogmas rather than to unitate official dogmas rather than to charge any fraudulent and criminal conduct against the St. Paul officers tended to show that the commission had done it in a very clumsy and alarming fushion, permitted, seem to be any essential reason for values had been disconsequence. permitted, seem to be any essential reason for believing that the long range outlook for values had been dimmed or that any occasion had been supplied to the financommunity for losing either head or

RAILROAD AND OTHER BONDS.

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TO THE HOLDERS OF

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\$3,525,000 Choctaw & Memphis R. R. Co. 1st Mortgage 5e, 1940. In view of the uncertaintles surrounding the whole Rock Island proposition, which has caused holders of the above securities to express to us concern as to their status, we feel, upon information, that the situation de mands concentrated action for mutual protection.

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